

Wheat Varieties for Montana, USA

Last updated: July 19, 2002

Winter Wheat

Neeley remained the leading variety of winter wheat seeded in Montana for the fifteenth consecutive year, with 263,800 acres planted. Total acres planted decreased 10 percent from last year's 293,200 acres. Neeley was developed by the Agricultural Research Service, United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) in cooperation with the Idaho Agricultural Experiment Station and released in 1980. It is a semi-dwarf variety, with intermediate maturity.

Rampart remained a close second in 2002, with 263,200 acres seeded this crop season. Rampart, a hard red winter wheat, was developed by the Montana Agricultural Experiment Station and released in 1996. It is an awned, red-chaffed, solid-stemmed variety. Kernels are hard red, with a mid-sized germ. Rampart is resistant to the wheat stem sawfly and to prevalent races of stem rust. It is susceptible to stripe rust, leaf rust, dwarf smut, and the Russian wheat aphid. Rampart has excellent milling and baking qualities.

Tiber remained in third place with 163,200 acres seeded. Last year 141,600 acres were put in the ground. Tiber is a standard-height, hard red winter wheat variety released by the Montana Agricultural Experiment Station in 1987. Tiber is a bearded, brown-chaffed, stiff-strawed variety. It has a high yield potential, good shatter resistance, and good winter hardiness (similar to Redwin). Tiber's resistance to lodging and shattering is equal to Redwin, but shorter in straw height than Winalta. It also has moderate resistance to the leaf spot complex, but is susceptible to dwarf smut, stem rust, and very susceptible to stripe rust.

Rocky replaces Morgan this year as the number four variety in Montana, with 149,400 acres planted in 2002. Rocky accounted for over 10 percent of the state's seeded acreage. Released in 1978 by Nickerson American Plant Breeders, Rocky is a pure line selection from Centurk. Recommended for the same areas as Centurk, but higher yielding under most conditions. Rocky is resistant to soil born mosaic.

These top four varieties accounted for 60.0 percent of the winter wheat acreage seeded in 2002. The top four varieties for 2001 accounted for 59.4 percent of the total acreage for the state.

Winter Wheat: 2002 Seeded Acreage and Percent of Total Seeded by Districts 1/																
Variety	Northwest		North Central		Northeast		Central		Southwest		South Central		Southeast		State Total	
	(000)	%	(000)	%	(000)	%	(000)	%	(000)	%	(000)	%	(000)	%	(000)	%
Neeley	1.2	14.6	74.5	10.2	1.9	2.4	158.3	54.6	14.0	46.8	13.5	7.1	0.4	0.5	263.8	18.8
Rampart	0.2	2.1	238.0	32.6	0.0	0.0	15.7	5.4	1.8	6.1	6.7	3.5	0.8	1.1	263.2	18.8
Tiber	0.0	0.0	45.3	6.2	23.3	29.1	20.6	7.1	0.0	0.0	57.0	30.0	17.0	23.6	163.2	11.7
Rocky	0.0	0.0	119.7	16.4	2.0	2.5	25.2	8.7	0.0	0.0	2.5	1.3	0.0	0.0	149.4	10.7
Vanguard	0.0	0.0	100.7	13.8	0.0	0.0	18.6	6.4	0.0	0.0	2.3	1.2	0.0	0.0	121.6	8.7
Morgan	0.0	0.0	65.0	8.9	4.9	6.1	12.8	4.4	7.7	25.6	3.6	1.9	6.3	8.7	100.3	7.2
Redwin	0.0	0.0	11.7	1.6	16.9	21.1	0.0	0.0	1.3	4.3	40.9	21.5	7.5	10.4	78.3	5.6
McGuire	0.0	0.0	2.2	0.3	0.0	0.0	1.2	0.4	3.0	9.9	23.9	12.6	1.0	1.4	31.3	2.2
Big Horn	0.0	0.0	11.7	1.6	0.0	0.0	11.0	3.8	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	22.7	1.6
Nuwest *	0.0	0.0	8.0	1.1	0.0	0.0	4.1	1.4	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	5.5	7.7	17.6	1.3
Quantum 542	0.0	0.0	4.4	0.6	0.2	0.2	4.4	1.5	0.0	0.0	4.9	2.6	0.6	0.8	14.5	1.0
Winalta	0.0	0.0	1.5	0.2	7.1	8.9	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	5.8	8.0	14.4	1.0
Tomahawk	1.9	23.5	0.7	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	10.5	5.5	0.0	0.0	13.1	0.9
Prowers 99	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	10.1	5.3	0.0	0.0	10.1	0.7
Norstar	0.0	0.0	5.8	0.8	4.2	5.3	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	10.0	0.7
Kestrel	0.0	0.0	2.2	0.3	6.1	7.6	1.7	0.6	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	10.0	0.7
NuFrontier	0.0	0.0	7.3	1.0	0.0	0.0	2.6	0.9	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	9.9	0.7
Warrior	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	2.1	1.1	5.9	8.2	8.0	0.6
Roughrider	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	3.5	4.4	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	4.5	6.2	8.0	0.6
Judith	0.0	0.0	5.8	0.8	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.8	0.4	0.0	0.0	6.6	0.5
Goldenspike	0.0	0.0	5.1	0.7	0.0	0.0	1.2	0.4	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	6.3	0.5
Erhardt	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	1.5	1.9	1.2	0.4	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	2.8	3.9	5.5	0.4
Other & Unknown	4.8	59.8	20.4	2.8	8.4	10.5	11.6	4.0	2.2	7.3	11.4	6.0	14.0	19.5	72.8	5.1

All Varieties	8.0	100.0	730.0	100.0	80.0	100.0	290.0	100.0	30.0	100.0	190.0	100.0	72.0	100.0	1,400.0	100.0
1/ Columns may not sum to all varieties due to rounding *White wheat variety																

Winter Wheat: Percent of Total Seeded Acreage 1996-2002 & Seeded Acreage 2001-2002 1/									
Variety	Percent of Total Seeded Acreage							Seeded Acres (000)	
	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001 2/	2002	2001 2/	2002
Neeley	24.6	24.3	20.0	20.8	19.2	22.6	18.8	293.3	263.8
Rampart	- -	- -	1.8	9.0	13.8	15.9	18.8	206.4	263.2
Tiber	16.5	13.4	14.2	17.3	11.3	10.9	11.7	141.6	163.2
Rocky	14.6	19.1	13.4	8.2	6.9	8.9	10.7	115.7	149.4
Vanguard	- -	0.8	10.3	7.0	9.4	6.7	8.7	86.9	121.6
Morgan	- -	- -	2.2	7.0	8.3	10.0	7.2	130.3	100.3
Redwin	11.4	10.6	6.1	4.7	6.4	4.0	5.6	52.4	78.3
McGuire	- -	- -	- -	- -	0.6	0.7	2.2	9.4	31.3
Big Horn	4.0	2.3	3.5	3.6	3.3	3.0	1.6	38.9	22.7
Nuwest *	- -	0.1	- -	0.5	0.4	1.7	1.3	22.6	17.6
Quantum 542	0.6	1.2	1.0	1.4	2.2	2.0	1.0	26.6	14.5
Winalta	3.5	1.9	2.9	1.7	1.1	2.1	1.0	27.8	14.4
Tomahawk	- -	0.1	0.2	0.6	0.9	1.2	0.9	16.0	13.1
Prowers 99	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	0.7	- -	10.1
Norstar	1.8	1.8	1.7	1.5	0.8	0.6	0.7	7.4	10.0
Kestrel	1.4	4.0	1.3	1.4	0.9	0.6	0.7	7.8	10.0
NuFrontier	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	0.7	- -	9.9
Warrior	0.4	0.6	0.7	1.2	0.4	- -	0.6	- -	8.0
Roughrider	2.1	2.3	1.3	1.1	1.1	0.8	0.6	10.5	8.0
Judith	3.7	3.4	4.3	1.0	2.3	0.3	0.5	3.7	6.6
Goldenspike	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	0.5	- -	6.3
Erhardt	- -	- -	- -	0.1	0.7	- -	1.1	- -	15.9
Other & Unknown	15.4	14.1	15.1	11.9	10.0	8.0	4.4	102.7	62.4
All Varieties	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	1,300.0	1,400.0
1/ Columns may not sum to all varieties due to rounding. 2/ Revised. * White wheat variety.									

Spring Wheat

McNeal was the leading spring wheat variety planted for the fifth consecutive year, accounting for over 39 percent of the seeded acreage, with almost 1.48 million acres planted. That is a decrease of over 15 percent in McNeal acres from 2001, while spring wheat acreage is up 5.6 percent this year. McNeal was developed by the Montana Agricultural Experiment Station and released in March 1995. It is a semi-dwarf, hard red spring wheat with red chaff and tan straw. Under Montana growing conditions, McNeal is moderately resistant to lodging and to prevalent races of stem rust and wheat streak mosaic virus. It is somewhat susceptible to leaf rust and stripe rust, and is also fairly vulnerable to Russian wheat aphid and the wheat stem sawfly.

Reeder moved into second place with 396,800 acres planted this year. Last year Reeder was the fifth most popular variety with nearly 119,500 acres. Reeder was developed from a cross of a relative of 'Stoa' and germplasm from a program in Brazil. Produced by the North Dakota Agricultural Experiment Station and released in 1999, Reeder is resistant to upper mid-west stem and leaf rust.

Ernest fell to third place in ranking this year with 389,900 acres planted, compared to 277,200 acres last year. Ernest was developed by the North Dakota Agricultural Experiment Station and released in 1995. It is an awned, white chaffed, standard height, solid stemmed, hard red spring wheat. It is resistant to wheat stem sawfly, leaf rust, and stem rust.

Fortuna took fourth place for the second year in a row with over 262,600 acres planted statewide. It is a beardless variety with white chaff and straw. It is a solid stem variety that is resistant to wheat stem sawfly. Fortuna is susceptible to Septoria and black chaff fungus. This spring wheat variety was developed at the North Dakota Agricultural Experiment Station with the Crops Research Division of the USDA Cooperating.

These top four varieties accounted for 67.4 percent of the spring wheat acreage seeded in 2002. The top four varieties for 2001 accounted for 72.2 percent of the seeded acreage.

Spring Wheat: Seeded Acreage and Percent of Total Seeded by Districts - 2002 1/																
Variety	Northwest		North Central		Northeast		Central		Southwest		South Central		Southeast		State Total	
	(000)	%	(000)	%	(000)	%	(000)	%	(000)	%	(000)	%	(000)	%	(000)	%
McNeal	5.9	23.6	559.4	33.9	712.2	46.1	105.7	43.3	11.3	28.2	34.6	45.5	47.8	28.1	1,476.9	39.4
Reeder	0.0	0.0	3.3	0.2	360.0	23.3	16.6	6.8	0.0	0.0	3.6	4.7	13.3	7.8	396.8	10.6
Ernest	0.0	0.0	316.8	19.2	55.6	3.6	8.3	3.4	0.0	0.0	1.4	1.9	7.8	4.6	389.9	10.4
Fortuna	0.0	0.0	227.7	13.8	15.5	1.0	7.6	3.1	0.0	0.0	11.8	15.5	0.0	0.0	262.6	7.0
Amidon	0.0	0.0	89.1	5.4	137.5	8.9	1.0	0.4	0.0	0.0	4.9	6.4	9.0	5.3	241.5	6.4
Conan	0.0	0.0	146.9	8.9	3.1	0.2	17.8	7.3	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	167.8	4.5
WestbredRambo	0.0	0.0	113.9	6.9	6.2	0.4	5.1	2.1	0.6	1.5	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	125.8	3.4
Scholar	0.0	0.0	42.9	2.6	15.5	1.0	8.3	3.4	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.3	0.2	67.0	1.8
Parshall	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	52.5	3.4	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	9.9	5.8	62.4	1.7
Lew	0.3	1.0	51.2	3.1	1.5	0.1	5.9	2.4	0.0	0.0	1.6	2.1	0.3	0.2	60.8	1.6
Grandin	0.0	0.0	1.7	0.1	30.9	2.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	21.3	12.5	53.9	1.4
Westbred 926	4.4	17.6	5.0	0.3	0.0	0.0	29.3	12.0	6.8	16.9	4.1	5.4	1.5	0.9	51.1	1.4
Westbred 936	8.4	33.7	5.0	0.3	0.0	0.0	3.7	1.5	14.4	35.9	1.1	1.4	6.3	3.7	38.9	1.0
Len	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	32.4	2.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	1.2	0.7	33.6	0.9
Hi-Line	0.0	0.0	13.2	0.8	4.6	0.3	0.2	0.1	1.2	3.1	0.0	0.0	2.2	1.3	21.4	0.6
Butte 86	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	1.5	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	17.7	10.4	19.2	0.5
Gunner	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	18.5	1.2	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	18.5	0.5
BR 2306	0.0	0.0	8.3	0.5	0.0	0.0	9.3	3.8	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	17.6	0.5
Olaf	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	13.9	0.9	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	2.9	1.7	16.8	0.4
Keene	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	7.7	0.5	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	5.3	3.1	13.0	0.3
Kulm	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	12.4	0.8	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	12.4	0.3
Newana	0.1	0.5	3.3	0.2	3.1	0.2	0.5	0.2	0.0	0.0	3.9	5.1	0.3	0.2	11.2	0.3
Other & Unknown	5.9	23.6	62.3	3.8	60.4	3.9	24.7	10.2	5.7	14.4	9.0	12.0	23.0	13.5	190.9	5.1
All Varieties	25.0	100.0	1,650.0	100.0	1,545.0	100.0	244.0	100.0	40.0	100.0	76.0	100.0	170.0	100.0	3,750.0	100.0
1/ Columns may not sum to all varieties due to rounding.																

Spring Wheat: Percent of Total Seeded Acreage 1996-2002 & Seeded Acreage 2001-2002 1/									
Variety	Percent of Total Seeded Acreage							Seeded Acres (000)	
	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001 2/	2002	2001 2/	2002
McNeal	1.3	16.2	26.5	40.4	48.8	49.2	39.4	1,746.1	1,476.9
Reeder	- -	- -	- -	- -	0.1	3.4	10.6	119.5	396.8
Ernest	0.2	3.2	7.6	9.4	10.7	10.1	10.4	357.7	389.9
Fortuna	5.9	6.3	6.5	5.0	4.9	5.1	7.0	179.6	262.6
Amidon	28.0	24.7	17.2	14.2	10.9	7.8	6.4	277.2	241.5
Conan	- -	- -	- -	- -	1.0	3.1	4.5	108.3	167.8
Westbred Rambo	9.9	10.0	7.9	6.7	5.3	3.2	3.4	114.6	125.8
Scholar	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	0.5	1.8	17.9	67.0
Parshall	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	0.5	1.7	17.0	62.4
Lew	4.4	2.5	1.8	1.3	0.9	1.2	1.6	41.4	60.8
Grandin	8.8	8.9	6.2	3.1	3.3	1.3	1.4	46.7	53.9

Westbred 926	2.5	2.7	1.8	2.5	2.2	1.8	1.4	63.5	51.1
Westbred 936	1.4	1.0	1.6	1.7	3.5	1.5	1.0	51.6	38.9
Len	3.6	3.1	1.8	1.2	1.6	1.2	0.9	43.8	33.6
Hi-Line	5.6	3.1	3.0	1.7	1.1	1.4	0.6	50.7	21.4
Butte 86	--	--	--	--	--	--	0.5	--	19.2
Gunner	--	--	--	--	--	--	0.5	--	18.5
BR 2306	--	--	--	--	--	--	0.5	--	17.6
Olaf	--	--	--	--	--	--	0.4	--	16.8
Keene	--	--	--	--	0.3	0.7	0.3	23.3	13.0
Kulm	0.5	0.4	1.9	0.8	1.1	0.8	0.3	29.2	12.4
Newana	5.0	2.4	2.0	1.2	0.9	0.6	0.3	22.6	11.2
Other & Unknown	22.9	15.5	14.2	10.8	3.4	6.6	5.1	239.3	190.9
All Varieties	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	3,550.0	3,750.0
1/ Columns may not sum to all varieties due to rounding. 2/ Revised.									

Durum Wheat

Kyle continued to be the leading durum variety for the sixth consecutive year. There were 216,900 acres planted in the state, accounting for 40.2 percent of the total seeded acres. Kyle was developed by the Agriculture Canada Research Station, Swift Current, Saskatchewan and released in 1984. Kyle is resistant to leaf and stem rust. It is moderately susceptible to tan spot and Septoria leaf spot and susceptible to loose smut.

Mountrail remained the second most popular variety of durum wheat in the state for the second year in a row. There were 144,000 acres planted or 26.7 percent of the state's durum wheat. Mountrail was developed from the cross of D8479 and Renville by the North Dakota Agricultural Experiment Station, and was released in 1999. The variety has a high semolina extract with strong gluten. It is resistant to both leaf and stem rusts.

Ben took third place ranking again this year with 29,900 acres planted or 5.5 percent of the state total for durum wheat. Ben was developed in North Dakota and released in 1996. This durum wheat is medium height, medium maturity, large kernel size with high protein. Ben is resistant to leaf rust, stem rust, and leaf spot complex. It is moderately susceptible to stripe rust.

Utopia became the fourth most popular variety this year with 26,800 acres planted or 5.0 percent of the state's durum wheat. Utopia was established at the University of Arizona, Mesa Experimental Station in 1982. Utopia is a semi-dwarf spring durum with very early maturation and low susceptibility to lodging. It is black awned and has shown uniformity and yield stability within cultural regimes, high input fully irrigated, and low input with limited irrigation.

These top four varieties account for 77.4 percent of total acres seeded to durum wheat. This compares with the 69.7 percent reported in 2001 for the top four varieties.

Durum Wheat: Seeded Acreage and Percent of Total Seeded by Districts - 2002 1/												
Variety	North Central		Northeast		Central		Southeast		Other Districts		State Total	
	(000)	%	(000)	%	(000)	%	(000)	%	(000)	%	(000)	%
Kyle	17.0	31.5	199.2	43.3	0.4	3.9	0.3	3.3	0.0	0.0	216.9	40.2
Mountrail	0.8	1.5	142.1	30.9	1.1	12.5	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	144.0	26.7
Ben	2.0	3.7	25.3	5.5	0.0	0.0	2.6	28.5	0.0	0.0	29.9	5.5
Utopia	23.9	44.3	0.0	0.0	1.8	19.7	0.0	0.0	1.1	37.4	26.8	5.0
AC Avonlea	3.8	7.0	14.7	3.2	0.3	3.3	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	18.8	3.5
Ward	0.0	0.0	15.2	3.3	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	15.2	2.8
Renville	0.5	1.0	8.7	1.9	0.0	0.0	3.7	40.8	0.0	0.0	12.9	2.4
AC Morse	0.0	0.0	11.0	2.4	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	11.0	2.0
Munich	0.0	0.0	8.7	1.9	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	8.7	1.6
Vic	0.0	0.0	7.4	1.6	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	7.4	1.4
Sceptre	0.3	0.6	6.9	1.5	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	7.2	1.3
Monroe	0.0	0.0	0.9	0.2	4.7	51.7	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	5.6	1.0

Durum Wheat: Percent of Total Seeded Acreage 1996-2002 & Seeded Acreage 2001-2002 1/									
Variety	Percent of Total Seeded Acreage							Seeded Acres (000)	
	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001 2/	2002	2001 2/	2002
Kyle	20.4	38.4	44.5	55.3	52.5	45.3	40.2	231.1	216.9
Mountrail	--	--	--	--	0.9	9.6	26.7	48.9	144.0
Ben	--	--	0.2	4.1	7.8	8.0	5.5	40.9	29.9
Utopia	--	--	--	1.4	5.8	6.6	5.0	33.9	26.8
AC Avonlea	--	--	--	--	1.4	3.9	3.5	19.7	18.8
Ward	5.4	1.9	1.9	4.4	2.3	3.1	2.8	15.6	15.2
Renville	9.0	8.4	6.0	4.8	5.2	6.8	2.4	34.6	12.9
AC Morse	--	--	--	--	--	--	2.0	--	11.0
Munich	--	--	--	1.0	0.9	0.5	1.6	2.4	8.7
Vic	13.9	7.4	8.6	8.1	2.6	1.6	1.4	8.2	7.4
Sceptre	3.1	5.1	6.8	3.4	2.9	1.5	1.3	7.4	7.2
Monroe	20.5	14.1	7.4	4.8	2.9	3.3	1.0	16.9	5.6
Plaza	--	--	--	--	--	--	0.9	--	4.9
Medora	2.4	8.7	6.6	3.3	3.5	0.4	0.6	2.2	3.0
Crosby	7.8	5.1	0.7	0.9	0.4	0.3	0.3	1.7	1.8
Lebsock	--	--	--	--	--	--	0.3	--	1.8
Voss	--	1.0	4.2	--	0.0	0.3	0.3	1.3	1.8
Stockholm	--	--	0.4	0.4	0.0	0.5	0.3	2.4	1.6
Other & Unknown	17.5	9.9	12.7	8.1	10.9	8.3	3.9	42.8	20.7
All Varieties	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	510.0	540.0
1/ Columns may not sum to all varieties due to rounding. 2/ Revised.									